

Recommendation Report for Works to Tree(s) on trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order (

REF NO: **AW/72/15/T**

LOCATION: Larrikins
 4 Tinghall
 Aldwick

PROPOSAL: Reduce crowns of 10 No. Beech trees to previous pruning points.

SITE AND SURROUNDINGS

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION	As above
SITE AREA	N/A
RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT DENSITY (NET)	N/A
TOPOGRAPHY	Predominantly flat
TREES	The Beech trees the subject of this application.
BOUNDARY TREATMENT	Front is open, south side boundary has a brick wall approximately 1.5m in height.
SITE CHARACTERISTICS	End of terrace two storey property with reddish/brown brickwork and a tiled roof.
CHARACTER OF LOCALITY	Residential comprising two storey terraced properties and two storey detached properties of similar style and appearance.

RELEVANT SITE HISTORY

AW/122/07/T	Top and prune the sides of 11 No. Beech trees	ApproveConditionally 15-06-2007
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REPRESENTATIONS

Representations received:

Aldwick Parish Council

No objection

Members agreed that the Arun Arboriculturist should be consulted regarding the application and that his recommendations/decision be applied.

Comments on Representations received:

Parish Council comments noted

See Tree Officer's recommendation.

CONSULTATIONS

Arboriculturist

Consultations responses received:

Tree Officer

T1 Species: Beech Fagus spp Height: 9 meters Average Branch Spread: 1.5 meters Crown Condition: fair Form: fair Age Class: semi mature

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The outlined trees lie within the area of Aldwick, which is a high amenity landscape with young, semi mature, mature, and over mature trees specimens present.

The trees cited in this application are situated in a linear belt along the southern boundary. The trees have obviously been reduced previously to a height at 3.5 meters. The applicant has applied to reduce to these established pruning points. According to the BS 3998:2010 the continuation of this pruning regime is likely to increase the retention span of the cited trees in this application.

As this operation is likely to increase the retention span of the heightened trees, I would have no objection to the proposed application.

The applicant is to adhere to the following conditions when completing the proposed operation;

Crown Reduction

All side branches to be retained should be at least 1/3rd in diameter of the removed branch. Pruning cuts must be flat and smooth, kept as small as possible by cutting at an optimum angle

and should not exceed 100mm in diameter.

Crown Clean

The Crown Clean should consist of deadwood and stub removal where all cuts should be made to the branch collar. Where crossing branches are encountered the weaker branch/branches should be reduced or removed to avoid contact between them. The remaining branch/branches should be shortened as appropriate to relieve 'end weight' and sudden exposure by reducing the leaf bearing branch tips by no more than 30%.

Comments on Consultation responses:

Tree Officer's comments noted and approval subject to conditions.

POLICY CONTEXT

Designation applicable to site:

Built Up Area Boundary
Tree Preservation Order

DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICIES

[Arun District Local Plan 2003:](#)

PLANNING POLICY GUIDANCE

POLICY COMMENTARY

The above policies are general and, other than online Planning Policy Guidance under references ID 36-090-20140306 and ID36-091-20140306, are not specific to trees.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND/OR LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

Section 198 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 states:

"If it appears to a Local Planning authority that it is expedient in the interest of amenity to make provision for the preservation of trees.... they may for that purpose make an order"

The works to the trees are to be judged having regard to amenity.

OTHER MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

It is considered that there are no other material considerations to warrant a decision otherwise than in accordance with the Development Plan and/or legislative background.

CONCLUSIONS

The Beech trees which are of a significant height and spread are sited along the southern side boundary of the site. They are readily visible to neighbouring properties in Tinghall and Leecroft being of public visual amenity value.

Pruning of the trees was previously carried out under AW/122/07/T and this application seeks to reduce crowns to previous pruning points. The Tree Officer has inspected the trees which have previously been reduced to a height of 3.5m and he has not objected to the continuation of the pruning.

It is therefore recommended to approve the application, subject to conditions.

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVE CONDITIONALLY

- 1 The works hereby approved shall involve:

Reduce crowns of 10 no. Beech trees to previous pruning points.

Reason: In the interests of the trees continued health and vitality and to accord with current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice.

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- 2 The work hereby approved shall be undertaken under the supervision of the Local Planning Authority who shall be notified in writing, not less than 7 days before the work commences.

Reason: In order to ensure a satisfactory standard of tree surgery in the interests of amenity.

- 3 The burning of materials obtained by site clearance or from any other source shall not take place within 6 metres of the furthest extent of the canopy of any tree or group of trees to be retained on the site or on land adjoining.

Reason: To protect trees and vegetation from fire damage in the interests of the visual amenities of the locality.

- 4 **INFORMATIVE:** The applicant should note that under Part 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, with only a few exceptions, it is an offence for any person to intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild birds while the nest is in use or being built. Birds nest between March and September and therefore removal of dense bushes, ivy or trees or parts of trees etc. during this period could lead to an offence under the act.

- 5 **INFORMATIVE:** This notice does not give authority to destroy or damage a bat roost or disturb a bat. Bat species are protected under Section 39 of the 1994 Conservation (Natural Habitats etc) Regulations (as amended), the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended) and the 2000 Countryside and Rights of Way Act. It is illegal to damage or destroy any bat roost, whether occupied or not, or disturb or harm a bat. If you are aware

that bats roost in a tree(s) for which work is planned, you should take further advice from Natural England (via the Bat Conservation Trust on 0845 1300228) or an ecological consultant before you start. If bats are discovered during the work, you must stop immediately and contact Natural England before continuing.